

Macalester Plymouth

UNITED CHURCH

January 7, 2024

10 am

Prelude

Andante from Piano Sonata in C Major
Sofia Ardalan, piano

W.A. Mozart
(1756-1791)

The prelude is a time for quiet reflection.

Welcome and Call to Worship

Peregrine Morkal-Williams

One: In every era, God calls to God's own:

All: **God called to Moses from a burning bush, to Elijah, in a still, small voice, and to Samuel, speaking his name.**

One: When Jesus stood in the River Jordan:

All: **A dove descended, a voice was heard, and Jesus was called beloved.**

One: In our time, God renews the call:

All: **Through broken bread, through a splash of water, through the mutual embrace of community.**

One: Let us worship the God who comes calling.

*Hymn

Crashing Waters at Creation

see back of bulletin

Opening Prayer

Rev. Cynthia Riffin

*Response

Sing to the Glory

Curt Oliver
(1943-2018)



Sing to the glo-ry of the God who cre-ates us,
Sing to the glo-ry of the Christ who re-deems us, Sing to the glo-ry of the Ho - ly Spir - it
who sus-tains and com-forts us; As it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and
ev - er shall be, world with-out end, world with-out end, world with-out end. A - men.

***Passing of the Peace**

Children's Message

Scripture

Mark 1:4-11

Rev. Adam Blons

One: May these words be to us our light and our life.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

***Hymn**

Wash O God, Our Sons and Daughters

see back of bulletin

Communion

Our table welcomes all people. Servers wash their hands just before serving. The communion elements are gluten-free crackers and grape juice. Those at home are invited to use any food or drink you wish.

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Creator, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Communion Music

Communion

Sofia Ardalan, piano

Prayer after Communion

Bountiful God, we give thanks for reconnecting us at this table to one another and to you. Strengthen our faith; increase our love for one another; grant us patience and wisdom; and send us forth into the world with courage to do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Offertory

Offertory

Sofia Ardalan, piano

Text GIVE2MPUC to 73256 to make an online donation.

*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Invitation to Our Life Together

*Hymn

There's a Spirit in the Air

#192

*Benediction

*Response

May God's Blessing Shine Upon Us

Curt Oliver
(1943-2018)



Postlude

Norwegian Melody

Sofia Ardalan, piano

Edvard Grieg
(1843-1907)

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Notes About Our Service

* Please stand as you are able.



Our sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop for enhanced sound for those whose hearing aids are equipped with a t-coil.



Support people growing in love of God and neighbor through Macalester Plymouth United Church! To give to the church, text GIVE2MPUC to 73256 and follow the prompts, give online at macalester-plymouth.org/give, or send a check to the church address below.

Our service today is being live streamed on YouTube. We occasionally scan the congregation during the broadcast. If you do not wish to appear online, we invite you to sit in the south transept or in the balcony. You will not be in view of the cameras there.

We affirm many words and images to talk about God. Feel free to change the words as you speak or sing to those you prefer.

Macalester Plymouth United Church (United Church of Christ/Presbyterian Church USA)
1658 Lincoln Avenue • St. Paul, MN 55105 • Ph 651-698-8871 • macalester-plymouth.org

Crashing Waters at Creation

Sylvia Dunstan

STUTTGART



Crash-ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem-bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
Cleans-ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the One fore - told,
5 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



First to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright-ness of night's death.
Wash - ing off the chains of bond-age chan - nel to a life made new.
O - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well-spring, Source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

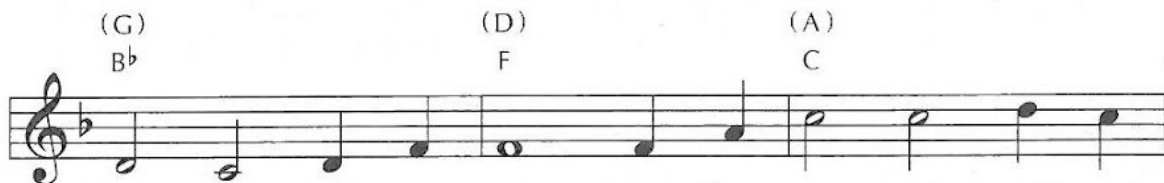
Wash, O God, Your Sons and Daughters



1 Wash, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, new - born crea - tures
2 Ev - ery day we need your nur - ture; by your milk may
3 O how deep your ho - ly wis - dom! Un - i - mag - ined,



of your womb. Num-ber them a - mong your peo - ple, raised like
we be fed. Let us join your feast, par - tak - ing cup of
all your ways! To your name be glo - ry, hon - or! With our



Christ from death and tomb. Weave them gar - ments bright and
bless - ing, liv - ing bread. God, re - new us; guide our
lives we wor - ship, praise! We your peo - ple stand be -



spark-ling; com-pass them with love and light. Fill, a - noint them;
foot - steps, free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in
fore you, wa - ter-washed and Spir - it - born. By your grace, our



send your Spir - it, ho - ly dove and heart's de - light.
liv - ing, dy - ing, by your Spir - it, chil - dren, heirs.
lives we of - fer. Re - cre - ate us; God, trans - form!

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text incorporates many of the images associated with the water of baptism in the Thanksgiving Over the Water in *The Book of Common Worship*, especially nourishment, the calling forth of life, cleansing and renewal, freedom from bondage, and sharing in Christ's resurrection.

There's a Spirit in the Air

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1,7. There's a Spir - it in the air, tell - ing
 2. Lose your shy - ness, find your tongue; tell the
 3. When be - liev - ers break the bread, when a
 4. Still the Spir - it leads the fight, see - ing
 5. When a stran - ger's not a - lone, when the
 6. May the Spir - it fill our praise, guide our

Chris - tians ev - ery - where: Praise the love that
 world what God has done. God in Christ has
 hun - gry child is fed, praise the love that
 wrong and set - ting right: God in Christ has
 home - less find a home, praise the love that
 thoughts and change our ways: God in Christ has

Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing, in our world.
 come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day!
 Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing, in our world.
 come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day!
 Christ re - vealed, liv - ing, work - ing, in our world.
 come to stay. Live to - mor - row's life to - day!

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1969

MUSIC: Medieval French melody; harm. by Richard Redhead, 1853

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